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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/735,335	12/11/2000	Paul C. Ross	1-3	5430

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EXAMINER

OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/735,335

Applicant(s)

ROSS, PAUL C.

Examiner

Jonathan Ouellette

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-12, 14-15, 17-21, and 23-27 are rejected under 35**

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ernst et al. (US 5,636,245)

3. As per **independent Claims 1 and 6**, Ernst discloses a method [telecommunications terminal] of operating a telecommunications terminal, said method comprising:
receiving a plurality of geographically-sensitive messages (C1 L61-67, C2 L1-24, C2 L59-62) broadcasted to a plurality of telecommunication terminals (C3 L41-45, plurality of remote units), and the plurality of geographically-sensitive messages having associated geographic locations of relevance and priorities (C3 10-30, Incorporation unit; C3 L65-67, C1 L1-4, Pre-designated event specific tags entered at criteria selection unit – priority would be on the list or not on the list); ascertaining a geographic location of said telecommunications terminal (C3 L31-45, remote unit); determining a geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal; determining whether the geographic location of relevance are within [overlapping] said geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal; filtering out the

geographically-sensitive messages whose associated geographic locations of relevance are not within said geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal; and ordering the unfiltered geographically-sensitive messages according to their associated priorities. (C3 L46-65, Matching Processor, process and disseminate information; C3 L65-67, C1 L1-4, Pre-designated event specific tags entered at criteria selection unit – priority would be on the list or not on the list).

4. As per Claims 2 and 7, Ernst discloses wherein said telecommunication terminal is mobile; and wherein said geographic region of interest is based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal and on a direction of motion of said telecommunications terminal (C3 L31-65, Direction of motion is a product of position, velocity and time).
5. As per Claims 3 and 8, Ernst discloses wherein said telecommunication terminal is mobile; and wherein said geographic region of interest is based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal and on a speed of said telecommunications terminal (Claim 6).
6. As per Claims 4 and 9, Ernst discloses wherein said geographic region of interest is based on the associated priority of said geographically-sensitive message (C3 L37-45, event specific tags – prioritizing events/messages; Claims 17-18, changing region of influence).
7. As per **independent Claims 17, and 23**, Ernst discloses a method [telecommunications terminal] of operating a telecommunications terminal, said

method comprising: receiving a first message having a definition of a geographic region of relevance and an associated indicium of the geographic region of relevance (C3 10-30); receiving a plurality of broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages (C1 L61-67, C2 L1-24, C2 L59-62) having associated indicia of geographic regions of relevance (C3 10-30, Incorporation unit, Time information, and Event Specific Tag); ascertaining a geographic location of said telecommunications terminal (C3 L31-45, remote unit); determining geographic regions of relevance from the associated indicia supplied in the plurality of broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages (C3 10-30); determining a geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal; determining whether the geographic location of relevance overlap said geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal; filtering out the broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages whose associated determined geographic regions of relevance fail to overlap said geographic region of interest of said telecommunications terminal (C3 L46-65, Matching Processor, process and disseminate information).

8. As per Claims 18 and 24, Ernst discloses wherein said telecommunication terminal is mobile; and wherein said geographic region of interest is based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal and on a direction of motion of said telecommunications terminal (C3 L31-65, Direction of motion is a product of position, velocity and time).

9. As per Claims 19 and 25, Ernst discloses wherein said receiver is also for receiving a definition of said geographic region of relevance, and further comprising a memory for storing said definition of said geographic region of relevance and an indicium of said geographic region of relevance as an index into said memory (C3 L46-65, Matching Processor; Claim 1 and Claim 17, Regions of interest/region of influence).
10. As per Claims 20 and 26, Ernst discloses wherein said telecommunication terminal is mobile; and wherein said geographic region of interest is based on said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal and on a speed of said telecommunications terminal (See Claim 6).
11. As per Claims 21 and 27, Ernst discloses wherein said geographic region of interest is based on the associated priority of said geographically-sensitive message (C3 L37-45, event specific tags – prioritizing events/messages; Claims 17-18, changing region of influence).
12. As per **independent Claims 11 and 14**, Ernst discloses a method [telecommunications terminal] of operating a telecommunications terminal to filter geographically-sensitive messages which are broadcasted to a plurality of telecommunication terminals (Abstract; C3 L41-45, plurality of remote units), said method comprising: receiving a first message having a definition of a geographic region of relevance and an associated indicium of the geographic region (C3 10-30); receiving a plurality of broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages having associated indicia of a geographic region of relevance (C3 10-30, Incorporation unit, Time information, and Event Specific Tag); ascertaining a geographic location of said

telecommunications terminal; determining a geographic region of relevance from the associated indicium supplied in a broadcasted geographically-sensitive message (C3 10-30); and determining whether said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal is within the determined geographic region of relevance; and disregarding the broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages when said geographic location of said telecommunications terminal is not within the determined geographic region of relevance (Claim1; C3 L46-65, Matching Processor, process and disseminate information).

13. As per Claims 12 and 15, Ernst discloses receiving a definition of each geographic region of relevance and an indicium of said geographic region of relevance before receiving said geographically-sensitive message; and storing said definition of said geographic region of relevance into memory with said indicium of said geographic region of relevance as an index into said memory (C3 L46-65, Matching Processor; Claim 1 and Claim 17, Regions of interest/region of influence).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. **Claims 5, 10, 13, 16, 22 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Ernst.**

16. As per Claims 5, 10, 13, 16, 22 and 28, Ernst does not expressly show wherein said geographic region of interest comprises at least one of a polygon and a conic section.
17. However these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The telecommunications terminal operating system would be performed regardless of the shape of geographic region of interest used. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).
18. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used a geographic region of interest in a shape comprising at least one of a polygon and a conic section, because such data does not functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed and because the subjective interpretation of the data does not patentably distinguish the claimed invention.

Response to Arguments

19. Applicant's arguments filed 5/13/2005, regarding Claims 1-28, have been fully considered but are not persuasive. The rejection will remain as FINAL based on the cited prior art.
20. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action

is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

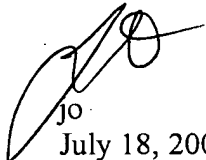
21. The Applicant has made the argument that the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest wherein "a receiver for receiving a plurality of broadcasted geographically-sensitive messages having associated geographic locations of relevance and priorities, " and " a processor configured... to order the unfiltered messages according to their associated priorities.
22. However, Ernst does disclose the ability of the user to set event specific tags (C4 L1-4) along with relevant geographic location, and the priority (display priority) would be whether the event was on the users event specific tag list or not.
23. The Applicant also makes the argument that the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest distinguishing the broadcast message.
24. However, Ernst does disclose wherein messages contain time information and are tagged, indicating the type of event indicated (C3 L10-30).
25. Finally, the Applicant makes the argument that the Claims 5, 10, 13, 16, 22 and 28, contain functional data when claiming wherein said geographic region of interest comprises at least one of a polygon and a conic section.
26. However the type of geographic region set as an area of interest would be considered nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps

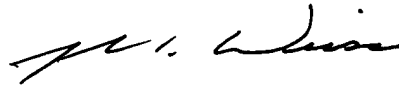
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recited. The telecommunications terminal operating system would be performed regardless of the shape of geographic region of interest used. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Conclusion

27. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (571) 272-6807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.
28. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300 for all official communications.
29. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination whose telephone number is (703) 308-1202.


JO
July 18, 2005


JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600